



INCORPORATED IN 1970

CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 58

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2012

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Special General Meeting
Wednesday, 15 February at 7:30pm
Crestwood Hall (see page 4)

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **6 April 2012**. Please send reports, announcements, notices, ads, articles and photos to Malcolm as early as possible before this date: 24 Coronet Court
crestwoodnews@iinet.net.au

Another Enjoyable Christmas at Crestwood

Thank You to All Who Helped

Another festive season has been successfully survived, or so I trust, and for parents looking forward to some respite, that should come with the end of the school holidays.

From my personal observations, the pool has been very popular, particularly after 5pm, with many families taking the opportunity to enjoy a cooling swim before putting their children to bed.

Our Carols in the Park was another success, but our Crestwood numbers were down on the previous year. I would like to thank the Thornlie Church of Christ for again providing the equipment and choir, and also for operating the sausage sizzle which was used to raise funds for an orphanage they support overseas.

While personal thanks have been given to people who assisted with making that night a success I would like to acknowledge publicly these people:

- George Putland for coordinating the Church's involvement for us yet again.
- Graham Bell for providing Santa's transport as he has done for many, many years.
- Marjan Van Dyke for coordinating the *12 Days of Crestwood* at the Carols.
- Ros Norman for making up the lolly bags for the children.
- Santa's helpers, Kate and Rachel Colley and Blake Sullivan, for helping distribute 84 presents and lolly bags this year, up on the figures of the previous years.

The Committee is still keen to establish a Social Committee to run a couple of events during the year to promote community interaction amongst our homeowners and residents.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to express our appreciation of the work and coordination of the 20's Club functions that Margaret and Trevor Davies organise and have done for a number of years now.

An important date coming up for all homeowners is the Special General Meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2012. We require 30% of our members to attend in person or provide a proxy, that is a combined total of 89 people. Please endeavour to attend or submit a proxy form.

Trevor Davis, President, Crestwood Home Owners Association

A Unique Way of Life

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(T = Telephone - F = Fax)

President	Trevor Davis	21 Princeton Ct/ trevor.davis@bigpond.com.au	T: 9459 3961/0458 707228.
Vice President	John Rushton	20 Coronet Ct / jonjanr@optusnet.com.au	T: 9493 6096/F: 9493 6596
Secretary	Sandra Wilson	105 Regency Dr/sandrawilson@inet.net.au	T: 9493 6622/F: 9452 2857
Treasurer	Roy Malone	116 Regency Dr/ r.ma.malone@internode.on.net	T: 9459 4364/F: 9459 4364 Mobile: 0477 293 633
Aquatic Centre	Darren Colley	11 Regency Dr	Mobile: 0448 940 985
Parks & Reticulation	Mike Bernoulli	24 Hume Rd / mike@bernoulli.fi	Mobile: 0402 423 172
Aesthetics [the contact person for building approvals, fencing and tree removal]			
	John Rushton	20 Coronet Ct / jonjanr@optusnet.com.au	T: 9493 6096/F: 9493 6596

CRESTWOOD CONTACTS

Crestwood Web Page	crestwood.org.au	
Crestwood Email	crestwood@safe-mail.net	
Community Centre Hire	Marjan van Dijk	darrencolley@iprimus.com.au
Social Club Coordinator	Vacant	
Crestwood News	Malcolm Mintz	24 Coronet Ct/crestwoodnews@iinet.net.au
Twenties Club	Margaret Davies	19 Regency Dr
Playgroup	Sofiah Campbell	
Webmaster	Rod Campbell	webmaster@crestwood.org.au
Wildlife Carers	Evelyn or Louise	9459 1627 (Louise)
Groundsperson	Grant Douglas	Hours: 9am - 3pm
		Email contact: crestwoodpark@bigpond.com
Pool	Office	

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

City of Gosnells	www.gosnells.wa.gov.au	Office Hours	T: 9397 3000
Ranger	(After hours calls will be diverted to a pager service)	All Hours	T: 9397 3000
Graffiti Removal		All Hours	T: 9391 3222
Goodbye Graffiti Hotline			T: 1800 442 255
Thornlie High School			T: 9376 2100
Canning Vale Police Station			T: 9456 9555
Life Threatening Emergencies			T: 000
Police Non-emergency			T: 131 444
Neighbourhood Watch			T: 9493 3311
Crimestoppers			T: 1800 333 000
Join e-WATCH	ewatch@gosnells.wa.gov.au		

Crestwood Committee Meetings

The Special and Annual General Meetings, and Committee meetings, of the Crestwood Homeowners Association for 2012 have been set on the following dates. Crestwood residents are welcome to attend all or part of these meetings held at the Crestwood Hall. Visitors' business is always attended to first, so residents may leave whenever they wish.

30 January 2012
15 February - Special
 General Meeting
27 February
26 March
30 April
23 May - Annual
 General Meeting

28 May
25 June
30 July
27 August
24 September
29 October
26 November
17 December

WELCOME TO CRESTWOOD

Sananda Wilson 46 Grenadier Drive
 Ai Yih Tan 9 Grenadier Drive
 Glyn and Kate Teape 40 Regency Drive

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

Barry and Tina Parker 46 Grenadier Drive
 Ian and Heather Kibble 9 Grenadier Drive
 Cameron and Samantha Allen 40 Regency Drive

Recent correspondence from the Committee of the Crestwood Homeowners Association.

Aesthetics

1. [A residence on Regency Drive] Thank you for your building application and letter of 13th December 2011. Since you have included all of the required documentation with your application, the committee is happy to approve the application. We hope all goes well with the construction of the extra bedroom.

John Rushton, Committee Member for Aesthetics

The pool has been functioning well this summer. The warmer temperatures have meant that most afternoons it is busy with residents and their guests escaping the heat.

Pool

Unfortunately, earlier in the season there was a concerning incident involving unruly guests behaving in an unacceptable manner. This situation was dealt with according to the operating guidelines of the pool, and the offenders were ordered to leave. Guests of residents are welcome at the pool with a visitor's pass or on the pass of a Crestwood member (subject to limitations printed on back). Please note, in particular our junior pass holders, that you are responsible for your guests and, if need be, will be held accountable.

On a more pleasant note, VacSwim was great success again this year. In particular, the number of people completing the bronze level was gratifying. The only downer was that the pool couldn't be used on the last morning due to thunderstorms.

A number of the deckchairs which were discarded earlier this season due to wear and tear, have now been replaced. The floating mats seem to be getting progressively smaller, so I will be looking into replacing those.

I hope you all continue to enjoy the pool for the remainder of the summer season.

Darren Colley, Committee Member for the Aquatic Centre

At last we have had all of the estate's bores in working order for the summer, and we have also had fewer problems with the reticulation than previous years. The park reticulation has been kept to a half-hour duration throughout the summer to conserve water and reduce the workload on the pumps. This may cause some stress to open areas in the parks, but this should only be in the short term.

Parks & Reticulation

In February park fertilising and weed spraying will commence.

Many thanks to Rob Munn who has been able to write and install software on the reticulation computer. Now there is a reliable reading of pressures throughout the estate.

Grant Douglas, Crestwood Estate Gardener

Congratulations

Congratulations to Pat and Veronica Antonio of Regency Drive on the occasion of their Diamond (60th) Wedding Anniversary. We wish them a continuing happy life together.

PERSONAL

NOTICES

Vale

The Crestwood community was saddened to hear of the passing in early January of John Della of Grenadier Drive, a former long time resident and 20s Club member. Our deepest condolences to his wife, Lorraine, and family.



Banksia Nutans



Banksia Integrifolia



Banksia Petiolaris

INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate

No incidents have been reported to the Crestwood News



POLICE WATCH - Thornlie from eWatch

2 December - 8 December: A quieter week in Thornlie, perhaps due to some of our recidivist offenders being sent back to jail. There were still 5 burglaries, but this is a lot lower than previous weeks.

A resident in Aster Crt was doing some gardening out the front and neglected to lock the back door allowing someone to walk in and steal some items. The resident saw the offender and recognised him. This is being investigated by our detectives, however, simply locking the door would have prevented this offence from happening.

During the day on Wednesday December 7 there were burglaries in Murdoch Rd, Cypress Crt and Discovery Drive. It is likely, due to the timing and location, these were committed by the same person, however, no one was seen and no reports have been received. If you recall seeing anything in the area around that time, please call crime stoppers on 1800 333 000.

A resident in Yale Rd was home during the day on December 10 and had forgotten to lock the back door. They heard the door open and saw a hand reach in so they shouted out, scaring the offender away. Another example of how locking a door could prevent an offence.

9 December - 29 December: Unfortunately this time of year also brings a rise in crime. We see a rise in burglaries, perhaps because of the possibility there are expensive gifts in the house. To reduce the chances of being broken into, there are some simple tips- lock your doors and windows, close your blinds if you are not using a room, look out for your neighbours.

We also see a rise in street robbery. The rise in robbery can be tenuously linked to technology. A good many people will receive gifts this year that are technological and the attributes of those things are the same reasons they make up the majority of things stolen in street robberies. Items that are portable, desirable, valuable and concealable make very attractive targets for thieves. These include smart phones (like i-phones), laptop computers, tablet computers and personal media players. Be mindful of your

surrounding environment when you are using them. For example, if you have your headphones in, you should still be able to hear ambient noise around you. Not only will it save your hearing, it reduces the chances of you being surprised or startled. Similarly if you are playing with your new gadget, keep your eyes out: who is around, who is watching you? Even when you are not using them, be mindful of how you carry them; are you advertising yourself as an easy target? Carry bags close to your body, securely held under your arm or over shoulders, and carry yourself with confidence, head up and looking around.

Many of the new gadgets also have GPS capability. It is a good idea to enable the tracking feature on those devices, so that if it is lost or stolen, you can get a location on another phone or computer, or even log on to the manufacturers website and it will give the location. These are very good, but they have to be turned on or signed up for on the manufacturers website. The function is free, so why not use it to protect your valuable items.

30 December - 05 January 2012: Homes were burgled in Oriole Way, Explorer Drive and Liata Court. The good news (if there is any) is that offenders had to smash windows to get in, and it wasn't made easy for them. The number of burglaries in Thornlie is a lot lower than in past weeks.

On New Years Eve a lady in Wiltshire Ave had her blue moped stolen from her porch. It was found soon afterwards burnt out in the Towncentre Drive Reserve.

There were a few incidences of property being stolen from vehicles in and around the Thornlie area. Some of these vehicles were locked, some not.

23 January - 01 February 2012:

Thornlie was the hotspot for burglaries last week so we have our All Terrain Vehicles out in the area.

A house in Cavalier Crt had a flyscreen cut on an open window on Jan 26. The offender was disturbed in the act, but managed to run off. Not long after there was a similar burglary in Grenadier Drive, apparently by the same offender. This is being investigated by Detectives.

On January 27 a house in Murdoch Drive was broken into with a brick thrown through a window. On January 29 a house in Corriedale Place had a window left open, allowing thieves easy entry.

There were also burglaries in Greenway Ave, Parer Close, and Spring Rd.

Special General Meeting

**Wednesday,
15 February 2012, 7:30
at the Crestwood Hall**

This is the annual meeting where the budget for the coming financial year is set. A quorum of 30% of households is required (89 member households either present or by proxy). Try your best to be there as your attendance is important.

Have a Look Beyond Your Fence

Homeowners are reminded that the area between your property and the footpath is your responsibility. Many homeowners have created lovely garden areas with easy care plantings next to paths that contribute to the beauty of our estate. A big thank you to those who have made this effort.

As a matter of safety, as well as desiring to make the estate look neat and inviting, we ask all homeowners to give the following issue urgent attention.

Park users should be able to access the entire width of the footpaths and walk or ride bicycles on the paths without having to duck or dodge overhanging branches. If there is anything hampering such use of the paths, we urge you to take action to fix the problem as soon as you can.

Where necessary, individual home owners will be contacted by the Crestwood management committee and asked to clear pathways. If such a request is not complied with, the gardeners will be asked to complete the work and homeowners will be billed accordingly for work undertaken.

We trust we can count on your cooperation to make sure Crestwood remains a great place to live in and enjoy.



Minutes

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: A problem occurred on Friday with the reticulation in Park 22 causing the system to close down. Repair was made the following Monday. There is also an ongoing computer problem relating to the logging software used to display pressure across the reticulation system. The system, not commonly used in Australia, was installed by someone who is currently unavailable to help. In the first instance, a suggestion was made to contact Taffy.

We are awaiting the contractor to begin work on painting the ends of the underpasses. In terms of future development, a surveyor will be required before taking any definitive decisions on how to proceed.

Correspondence was received from one of the residents regarding a suggestion for new paths at the park entry/exit points at Ovens Road, and park garden improvements.

The floodlights on the garage are not working.

Pool: A decision was made that in cooler weather, under 23 degrees, there is no need for the pool attendant to remain if there are no patrons.

The heater in the toddler pool is working well. Six more lounge chairs are to be purchased.

The inflatable will be at the pool on Sunday, 11 December.

Aesthetics: The application for a workshop in a fenced-off area at a house on Grenadier drive has been approved assuming subsequent council approval.

Application for construction of a pool at a residence on Grenadier Drive has been received. A request has gone to the homeowner for further information.

Evidence of exceptional need has been requested before approval is considered for construction of a front fence at a house on Regency Drive. Correspondence was also received on this matter from a resident concerned that this is against current policy.

Finance: Delvin is now part time and, therefore, receives sick leave and holiday pay entitlements.

A number of homes are now under offer of sale.

Social: Santa and Carols in the Park are scheduled for Sunday 18 December. A request is to go into the newsletter asking for volunteers for certain tasks.

Visitors' Business: Three visitors attended the meeting. One of the concerns raised was about the reticulation, and that was whether the scheduled reticulation times could be changed and how easy it was to do this. A number of concerns were raised regarding the parks. These were about the browning off of areas of grass, certain garden areas needing attention, the state of the underpasses, and the timing of the park lights. There were two questions of policy, one querying whether a tent/gazebo set up at the rear of a house was in accordance with policy, and the other was about the plan to built a fence at the front of another residence. A general question was also raised about noise from parties and what is allowed.

General Business A notice is to go into the next newsletter reminding homeowners of their responsibility under the covenant they signed when purchasing their properties when planning alternations to their home or its surrounds.

December 2011

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: A quote for survey work on Underpass B has been received with work to proceed according to the quote.

No extra leave is to be taken by Grant or Delvin over the Christmas - New Year period.

The computer problem regarding the logging of the reticulation pressures is ongoing.

Pool: The incident involving a young resident appears to have been resolved by another pool user.

New lounges have been purchased.

Aesthetics: Approval has been given for the addition at the rear of a property on Regency Drive.

Financial: Four homeowners still have fees overdue.

A donation has been made to the Thornlie Church of Christ for their orphanage in India. This was also in appreciation for their presenting Crestwood's Carols in the Park this year as they have in the past.

Social: Santa's visit went well with 84 children receiving gifts. A note of thanks is to be made to those who helped: Ros, Graeme, Kate, Rachel and Blake.

The Thornlie Church of Christ did an excellent job of presenting Carols in the Park. It was well attended although numbers seemed down a bit on last year. A note of thanks is to be prepared to those involved.

My Journey to Busselton Ironman

(SWIM 3.8KM BIKE 180KM RUN 42.2KM)

By Fay Wells

December 2009; I was despondent, never before had I been so unfit and out of shape. I had abandoned bush walking, the dog had died, and the novelty of Wii Fit had worn off many moons ago. OK, maybe I wasn't that bad for my age, but I knew the longer I let myself go, the harder it would be to reverse. I really needed to start exercising again and, as I had been a recreational runner decades earlier, thought I should start with something familiar. I bought a pair of running shoes, ventured out the back gate and jogged a circuit of Crestwood. Despite feeling totally wiped out for the rest of the day, I dragged myself out of bed the next morning and did it again; and again. As it became easier I started to go further and further. During 2010 I completed two marathons (42.2km); the Perth Marathon in June and the City to Surf Marathon.

What now? I needed a new challenge to keep myself motivated. In October I was chatting to a teacher who had just returned from the Ironman World Championship in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, and in one of those moments when my mouth gets into gear before my brain, I mentioned that I was considering trying an Ironman myself. She was very enthusiastic about it and the following week asked if I would like to buy her old bike as she had just upgraded. I was now training for a triathlon, a very long one at that. The Busselton Ironman is held early December, so I had thirteen months to prepare.

Although I looked at various training programs on the internet I decided to devise my own. During summer I mostly swam, in autumn I mostly rode, winter I mostly ran and in spring I put it all together. My main focus was going the distance, gradually building up my long sessions step-by-step. As an interim goal I competed in the Busselton 70.3 (Half Ironman) in May. Rough seas made the swim disastrous for me, not having done any open water swim training; however, I finished. The 1.9km swim, 90km ride and 21.1km run took me 6 hours 42 minutes; plenty of room for improvement.

My lead-up to the full Ironman started in earnest early September. Eight hours training per week were now reserved for recovery, the other weeks containing 10-20 hours of training. Peak volume was achieved the last week of October, which included a race pace 112km ride and 26km run on the Friday Public Holiday followed up by 'Big-Day Training' that Sunday. This session is designed to prepare you for an all-day effort with the recommended schedule consisting of a longish swim, bike and run, preferably in that order, to simulate a triathlon, however with long and relaxed transitions between. Since the Crestwood Pool wasn't opening until noon, I decided to do the session in reverse order. Midway through my run I came up with another of my bright ideas; I would do a run, ride and swim, and then go back out for another ride and run. Over an elapsed period of about 14 hours I ran 12km, rode 70km, swam 2.5 km, rode another 70km then ran another 12km.

Two weeks later I did my last long training sessions. This time I spread it out; swimming 3.8km (152 laps) on Friday, running 38km on Saturday, then riding 170km on Sunday. The next three weeks were my taper, where I drastically reduced my training so that I was fresh for the Busselton Ironman.

Sunday the fourth of December, 2011 the contestants were up early. After completing set-up we wandered down to the jetty. Standing in chest-deep water waiting for the starting siren, I tried to remain calm, without much success. Then at 5:45 we were off, and for maybe 15 minutes the swim was going reasonably well. I had

settled into a steady rhythm and was not feeling too daunted about swimming for another 90 minutes or so. The further out you went the bigger the swell, and with the wind picking-up I was being slapped in the face. I always breathe to my right, which was unfortunately the wrong side for the outward leg of the swim. Invariably I started to swallow a bit of sea-water, and then to make matters worse I had a coughing fit which resulted in me taking a big gulp of water. Before too long I was feeling queasy and was soon alternating between swimming and vomiting. Luckily, Surf Life Rescue was quick to allocate me my own surf-ski escort, which gave me something to hold on to, keeping my face out of the water while I was being sick. They encouraged me to keep going for as long as I felt able. Some 2 hours later it was with great relief that I finally touched sand again. Another 8 minutes and I would have missed the 2 hour 20 minute cut-off for the swim and been forced to withdraw. Stopping once more to let a stomach-full of sea-water come up I struggled through transition and onto my bike.

The 180km bike course consists of three 60km laps, so there is the temptation to pull out after only completing one or two laps, which, on that day, more than a few succumbed to. Strong headwinds and hot humid weather are not a good combination. My ride went without incident, although I gave one volunteer a scare when I veered reaching for half a banana. Coming in at the end of the second lap I started to worry that I wouldn't make the bike course cut-off. There was no way I was going through all this only to be told I couldn't do the run, so I sped up. Glancing down at my bike computer I saw that my heart rate had jumped considerably, so I slowed down again. Luckily the wind started to drop off, allowing me to do a slightly faster lap time, so I actually finished the bike leg 27 minutes before the cut-off. The balls of my feet were so sore from pushing down on the pedals that I wasn't sure that I would be able to walk, let alone run a marathon. I hobbled through transition and was finally out onto the run course.

Running a marathon is daunting at the best of times; heading out on one at four in the afternoon on an unusually hot and humid day, after having had a good try at drowning myself and then riding further than I've even ridden in my life, left me questioning my state-of-mind. 'Why didn't someone tell me this is crazy?' Then I remembered; they had - several people in fact. However, it was such a relief to have the swim and ride behind me, I actually enjoyed the run. Once the blood started to flow around my feet again they were fine, or at least I had stopped noticing them. At aid stations I held out my cap and asked for ice, in addition to the cup of sports-drink offered. I declined the vegemite sticks, suspecting that I had sufficient sodium reserves already. The melting ice on my head took the edge off the heat and gradually cloud cover and a setting sun resulted in bearable running conditions. The marathon course consisted of four laps; on the first three laps you collect a black wrist band and on the final lap an orange one, which allows the runner entry to the finish chute. I felt great elation as I came up that final 50 metres. Finally, 15 hours 23 minutes and 27 seconds since the starting siren sounded, I did the Ironman leap.

Submitted by Fay Wells of Hume Rd



Crestwood Hall Hire

NOTICES

SOCIAL

The Crestwood Hall is available for use by residents. It is ideal for large or small functions: birthday parties, morning teas, playgroups, meetings. It can be hired on a one-off or regular basis. Charges are as follows.

Daytime (to 5pm) — \$11.00/hour to a maximum of \$55.00
Night-time (to midnight) — \$22.00/hour to a maximum of \$110.00.

Up to 50 people are allowed in the Hall. Full use of the kitchen is included for both day and night functions.

Commercial (for-profit events or those charging an entry fee) — \$25.00 per hour to a maximum of \$100.00 – 8am - 5pm
A \$300 bond applies to all bookings made by homeowners and \$500 to those bookings made by tenants. A minimum cleaning charge of \$150 will be taken from the bond if the hall is not cleaned to a satisfactory standard.

Hall hire does not include access to the pool area. For children's parties there is a minimum adult supervision requirement.

To book or obtain further information call Marjan: 9459 8776



PARTY YOURSELF INTO SHAPE

The Latin-inspired, easy to follow, calorie burning dance-fitness party is now at Crestwood.

CRESTWOOD HALL
Wednesdays 6:30 pm

For more information
phone Lisa 0450 957 025

CRESTWOOD PATCHWORK & QUILTING GROUP

**Meeting on a Tuesday night in
the Crestwood Hall**

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

**New members welcome. Come and
meet us or ring Jan on 9493 0045.**



CRESTWOOD MOTHER'S GROUP / PLAYGROUP

**New members and their friends are always welcome. —
We would love to hear from you.**

We meet on Friday mornings at the Crestwood Hall
10.00 am—12.00 noon
0 years to 6 years old / \$10.00 per term

Runs during School terms

Call Sofiah on 9459 8205

Social Card Mornings

Join me for a creative morning of card making, a great way to meet people and develop friendships.

Where: 24 Princeton Court

When: Friday mornings, 10:00 -
11:30 am during school terms

Cost: \$6.00 to cover materials for 2 pre-prepared projects, morning coffee or tea and biscuits.

Contact: Joanne Brand for further information —
Phone 9459 6114 / 0403 474 075 or email —
brand_family@iprimus.com.au



Belly Dance

Ladies, come and try something different. Have fun and learn how to belly dance. Our friendly group welcomes beginners or experienced dancers.

Come join us. Non-Crestwood residents welcome.
Cost \$10.00 per class — includes drumming class.

**Phone Gillian 9459 9904 or Heather 9452 2427
for time and location of the class.**



The bell signalling the start of Santa's ride through the Crestwood parks came just before 5:00 in the afternoon. Those who were out early caught the first

glimpses of the 1930s Chevrolet hot rod driven by Santa's ever-reliable chauffer, Graeme Bell, accompanied by three elves sitting comfortably in the dicky-seat: Kate and Rachel Colley and Blake Sullivan. Santa, known on the other 364 days of the year as Trevor Davis, sat in the passenger seat, waving at the children who came alongside the car or trailed happily behind.

Santa's grotto was set up in the shade of a small tree which filtered the late afternoon sun onto the bags of waiting presents. One by one the name of each child was called to come up and collect their present and lolly bag. This went on until all 84 children had come to see Santa, some shyly, some more confidently and some still in their mother or father's arms.

This year the sausage sizzle was run by the Thornlie Church of Christ, the



same church that has presented our Carols in the Park for the past number of years. The proceeds, totalling \$1100, were donated to the Spring Buds Orphanage in India. The funds are half of what is needed to enable the orphans to make their first trip from their home in Nagaland to Bangalore, a distance of 2,000 kilometres.

When the first residents arrived to see Santa, there was already evidence that the Church had been there far earlier to set up for the evening. The speakers and lights were in place, the larger instruments were



in position and the music stands clearly marked out the location of the singers and instrumentalists. This year there were two keyboards, a drum set, one flute, two electronic and two audio guitars and 12 singers.

The crowd changed somewhat as the evening progressed. Some of those with younger children made their way home after Santa had distributed his gifts, while others arrived for the sausage sizzle or to await the start of the singing. Children of an intermediate age seemed to have great fun dashing in and out amongst the crowd, some throwing luminescent balls, some waving glowing wands, and most just meeting semi-loudly with other friends to run in circles or other figures of indeterminate shape. The crowd was down a little on last year, with one estimate putting it at just over 250.



The choir, led by Andrew Campbell and featuring two soloists, Lisa Powell and Dave Francis, did a particularly professional job, with the crowd enjoying Christmas carols sung in more traditional styles. Gone from last-year's mix were some of the more up-beat versions. The evening started with a solo version of the Son of God, which was followed by a choral version of the same song. The choir then presented



more favourites: Angels We Have Heard on High, Oh Little Town of Bethlehem and Hark the Herald Angels Sing.

It was then time for the children in the audience to participate. They were all called to the front of the crowd. Those who could give the name of one of Santa's reindeer had a little red dot painted on their nose and given antlers to wear. Those who could answer what kind of animal might be found in a manger, had a little cow face painted on. Those who knew that the wise men followed a star were given stars to hold, and those who knew Jesus lived in our hearts were given a heart. While some children thought that what other children had was preferable, they were all assured they had a part to play. And then they sang, starting with Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer.



It then came time for the traditional Twelve Days of Crestwood, this time led by Marjan van Dijk who, with very little notice, managed to put together a group of residents who acquitted themselves quite admirably.

More carols followed: What Child is This, Jingle Bells and God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman. And then, as the

evening drew to a close, Senior Pastor, Rob Furlong, addressed the crowd with an effective sermon on gift giving. The evening ended with the choir singing We Wish You a Merry Christmas. The residents, content with the evening, collected their mats, chairs and blankets and made their way home.



More Wisdom from Kids

What do your mum and dad have in common?

Both don't want any more kids (Lori, age 8).

What do most people do on a date?

1. Dates are for having fun and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough (Lynette, age 8).
2. On the first date they usually tell each other lies, and that gets them interested enough to go on a second date (Martin, age 10).

What would you do on a first date that went wrong?

I would run home and play dead. The next day I would call all the newspapers and make sure they wrote about me in all the dead columns (Craig, age 9).

When is it okay to kiss someone?

1. When they are rich (Pam, age 7).
2. The law says you have to be 18, so I wouldn't want to mess with that! (Craig, age 7).
3. The rule goes like this: if you kiss someone then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do (Howard, age 8).

Is it better to be single or married?

It's better for girls to be single, but not boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them (Anita, age 9).

How would the world be different if people didn't get married?

There would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there? (Kelvin, age 8).

How would you make a marriage work?

Tell your wife she looks pretty, even if she looks like a truck (Ricky, age 10).

Places I Have and Haven't Been

I have been in many places, but I have never been in **cahoots**. Apparently you can't go there alone. You have to be in cahoots with someone. I have also never been in **cognito**. I hear no one recognises you there.

I have, however, been in **sane**. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there thanks to my family, friends and work.

I would like to go to **conclusions**, but you have to jump and I'm not big on physical exercise. I have, however, been in **doubt**. That's a sad place to go and I try not to visit too often.

I've been in **flexible**, but only when it was important to stand firm. Sometimes I'm in **capable**, and I go there more often as I get older.

One of my favourite places to be is in **suspense**. It really pumps the heart and gets the adrenalin flowing.

There's Nothing Wrong with My Memory

Three elderly ladies are sitting in a restaurant chatting about various things. One lady says, "You know, I'm getting really forgetful. This morning I was standing at the top of the stairs and I couldn't remember whether I had just come up or was about to go down".

The second lady says, "You think that's bad? The other say I was sitting on the edge of my bed and I couldn't remember whether I was going to sleep or had just woken up".

The third lady smiles smugly, "Well, my memory is just as good as it's always been, knock on wood," she says as she raps on the table. Then with a startled look on her face she asks, "Who's there?"

Tired of Nuisance Phone Calls? What to Say to the Telemarketer

1. Tell them to talk very, very slowly because you want to write every word down.
2. Insist that the caller is really your old friend Leon playing a joke. "Come on, Leon, cut it out!. Seriously, Leon, how's your mum?"
3. Tell the telemarketer that you are busy at the moment and ask them if they will give you their home phone number so you can call them back. When the telemarketer explains that they cannot give out their home number, you say, "I guess you don't want anyone bothering you at home, right?" The person will agree, and then you say, "Now you know how I feel."
4. Tell the telemarketer that you are on home detention and ask them if they will bring you a carton of beer and some chips.
5. If they are ringing to loan you money, tell them you are just about to file for bankruptcy and you could sure use some.
6. If the caller is from the phone company and is ringing to get you to sign up for the Family and Friends plan, tell them in as sinister voice as possible that you don't have any friends. Ask them, "Would you like to be my friend?"
7. When the person says hello, cry out in surprise, "Judy, is that you? How have you been? It's been such a long time since I've heard from you!" This will give the person on the other end a few brief moments of pause to figure out where she might know you from.
8. If the person says he is John Doe from XYZ Company, ask him to spell his name. Then ask him to spell the name of the company and then ask where it is located. Continue asking him personal questions or questions about the company for as long as necessary.
9. When the caller asks, "How are you today?", tell them. Say, "I, am so glad you asked because these days no one seems to care and I have all these problems. My arthritis is acting up, my eyes are sore and my dog just died ..."
10. Tell the caller you are hard of hearing and keep asking them to speak up. Act like you misunderstand what they are saying. When they ask, "How has your day been?" answer that, "No one else thinks I am slim," and if they say, "I have got nothing to sell," act insulted and answer, "Well, you too can go to hell!" and then hang up.

More — How the Fight Began

My girlfriend told me we need to talk. She said, "I know you love me, but I don't think you are in love with me". "Why would you say that dear?" I asked. She replied, "I think you only love me because my father left me his fortune." "That's not true at all," I said, "I would love you no matter who left you the money." And that's how the fight began.

My pregnant wife and I went to a birthing clinic as she was seven months pregnant. The woman conducting the clinic kept emphasising how important it was to keep exercising. "Ladies, the more you exercise, the better it is, and walking is one of the best exercises you can do." She then looked at the men. "And you men, that goes for you too. Walking with your wife is not only good for you, but the companionship is also invaluable. I then thought of something and asked, "Would it be a problem if she was carrying golf clubs?" And that is how the fight began.

I asked my wife, "Where do you want to go for our anniversary?" "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time," she answered in sweet anticipation. So I suggested, "How about the kitchen?" And that's how the fight began.

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Call or email the editor to add or remove details: 9459 2902 / crestwoodnews@inet.net.au

INBOX**CATS**

Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre

Our View on New Cat Laws

Cats are amazing creatures and I have had the joy of their company through many decades. Cats are also one of the most effective predators on the planet. They are skilful, silent, and equipped with claws and teeth.

Every year at Kanyana our volunteers receive dozens of birds, lizards, and small mammals that have been injured in cat attacks. The number would be higher, except that cats usually kill what they hunt. An average suburban moggie that is allowed to roam has a territory of one square kilometre in which it will practice its biological calling to stalk and hunt. The effect of a single house cat on a suburb can be devastating to our local wildlife which has not evolved to deal with cats.

The government's new cat laws are well meaning but amount to a set of half measures. Owners will be forced to

take care of their cats under the new legislation and this will benefit the cats a lot. They will be healthier and better looked after, and because it costs the owners good money to comply with the laws, some will no doubt decide that it makes perfect sense to keep their beloved moggie indoors or with access to a decent outdoor enclosure. It is a fact that a cat that is allowed to roam in suburbia has an average life expectancy of three years due to the risks of getting hit by cars or getting into serious fights with other roaming cats. A cat kept enclosed lives happily for about 15 years, and for people who love their cats, that is something to consider.

The government's legislation will do little to stop suburban cats killing birds and lizards in their territory. Owners who love their cats and want to keep them happy and healthy should consider providing simple, cheap and effective outdoor enclosures attached to the house so that their moggie can enjoy its biological need to run, stalk and explore, and to bask in a warm, sunny spot whenever they can.

June Butcher, Founder and Chairperson
 Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre

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Don Russell Performing Arts Centre

The Don Russell Performing Arts Centre is a professional theatre located next to the Forest Lakes Shopping Centre on Murdoch Road in Thornlie. A number of professional shows are presented throughout their season.

As part of the Morning Melodies program the Centre will present *Bernard Carney*, an all around musician and entertainer whose songs tell stories of Australia, Wednesday, 22 February; *Fiona Maria*, a Royal Academy of Music trained soprano, Wednesday, 21 March and *Older Women's Network Theatre Group* performing hits from the Rodgers and Hammerstein's Broadway musicals, Wednesday, 18 April. Morning tea is served at 10:15 am and performances start at 11:00 am.

The Centre will also host *Kings of Swing*, Saturday, 18 February at 8:00 pm and *Motherhood the Musical*, Saturday, 24 March at 8:00 pm.

For more information and booking you can go to the Gosnells website, www.gosnells.wa.gov.au, you can call, 9493 4577 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, or you can visit the box office between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday.